

202231

cc: PS2 3/5

March 5, 1974

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Problem Identification: Intelligence

1. Covert Political Action. Should the U.S. Government have a capability for covert action overseas, i.e., clandestine political intervention or interference in foreign countries? If so, under what circumstances, under what safeguards (approval mechanisms), and who should carry out the activities?
2. Intelligence Collection. How can the collection of intelligence information for the conduct of foreign policy -- including particularly Foreign Service, CIA, and Military Attache reporting -- be made more effective? There are two major problems:
 - a. Reporting is now almost entirely responsive to operational requirements rather than to the needs of intelligence analysts.
 - b. The needs of consumers, both operational and analytical, have not been adequately expressed to guide the collectors.
3. Special Intelligence Collection Efforts. What control and coordination is required to assure the effectiveness of highly sensitive and exceptionally costly intelligence efforts, managed by the Department of Defense but important to the conduct of foreign policy as well as to the needs of the military?

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4. Intelligence Research and Analysis. How can the Organization and procedures for intelligence analysis be made more useful to policymakers? Specifically, how can policymaker requirements and evaluation be most effectively related to the offices producing the intelligence analysis? Where in the community should intelligence analysis directly in support of the conduct of foreign policy be carried out -- notably for political, strategic, economic, and scientific matters? What should be the proper balance in the intelligence community between National and Departmental Intelligence?
5. National Intelligence Estimates. Are National Intelligence Estimates drafted and coordinated in a way that makes the best use of resources throughout the community? Do NIE's meet the needs of the President, other key policy makers, and others throughout the government involved in the conduct of foreign policy?
6. Intelligence Oversight. What intelligence activities need to be subject to more direct and responsible accountability and review by the Executive Branch and by the Legislative Branch? What form should such oversight take (PFIAB, OMB, NSC, Ambassadors, etc.)?

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